

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A tablet punch for preparing pharmaceutical compositions comprising a punch cup having a non-stick polymeric coating applied thereto wherein the non-stick polymeric coating has a thickness between about 0.01 microns and about 10 mm.
- 2.(original): The tablet punch of claim 1 wherein the non-stick polymeric coating comprises a fluoropolymer.
3. (original): The tablet punch of claim 1 wherein the non-stick polymeric coating comprises polytetrafluoroethylene.
4. (canceled) .
5. (original): A tablet punch for preparing pharmaceutical compositions comprising a punch tip having a non-stick polymeric lathed head affixed thereto.
6. (original): The tablet punch of claim 5 wherein the head comprises a fluoropolymer.
7. (original): The tablet punch of claim 5 wherein the head comprises polytetrafluoroethylene.
8. (original): The tablet punch of claim 5 wherein the head has a thickness between about 0.1 mm and about 5 mm.
9. (original): A method for manufacturing compressed forms comprising the step of compressing an amount of a composition in a tablet press between an opposing pair of tablet punches where the punch cups of said punches have a non-stick polymeric coating.
10. (original): The method of claim 9 wherein the non-stick polymeric coating comprises

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a fluoropolymer.

11. (original): The method of claim 9 wherein the non-stick polymeric coating comprises polytetrafluoroethylene.

12. (original): A method for manufacturing compressed forms comprising the step of compressing an amount of a composition in a tablet press between an opposing pair of the non-stick tablet punches of claim 5.

13. (original): The method of claim 12 wherein the non-stick polymeric coating comprises a fluoropolymer.

14. (original): The method of claim 12 wherein the non-stick polymeric coating comprises polytetrafluoroethylene.

15. (original): The method of claim 9 wherein the composition comprises a pharmaceutical composition.

16. (original): The method of claim 15 wherein the pharmaceutical composition does not include a lubricating agent.

17. (original): The method of claim 12 wherein the composition comprises a pharmaceutical composition.

18. (original): The method of claim 17 wherein the pharmaceutical composition does not include a lubricating agent.

19. (original): A compressed tablet which consists of an active ingredient and non-lubricating tablet excipients.

20. (new): A tablet punch for preparing pharmaceutical compositions, said tablet punch being adapted for use in a pharmaceutical tablet press where said tablet punch comprising an opposing pair of non-stick tablet punches, each having non-stick polymeric coating applied thereto wherein the non-stick polymeric coating has a thickness between about 0.01 microns and about 10 nm.